

EZRA / NEHEMIAH

LET US RISE UP AND BUILD



THE JEWISH RETURN FROM CAPTIVITY

MIKE MAZZALONGO

STUDENT WORKBOOK

bibleTalk^{TV}



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Ezra/Nehemiah - Let Us Rise Up and Build

The Jewish Return from Captivity

Mike Mazzalongo

Let us rise up and build is the story of the Jewish peoples' return from 70 years of exile and the heroic leaders who guided them to rebuild a broken land, city, temple, and nation in preparation for the coming of the Messiah, Jesus Christ.



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1. JEWISH HISTORICAL TIMELINE

In this introductory lesson, Mike traces the history of the Jewish people from 1020 BC's United Kingdom to the time of the prophet Malachi in 400 BC.

1500 BC Moses → 1040 BC King Saul

TIMELINE – HEADINGS

DATE	EVENTS	PROPHETS/BOOKS	WORLD
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DATE	EVENTS	PROPHETS/BOOKS	WORLD
1040 BC	Beginning of United Kingdom Israel ruled by one king - Saul (1040-1000) - David (1000-961) - Solomon (961-922)	I & II Samuel I Kings 1-11 I Chronicles II Chronicles 1-9 Psalms Proverbs Song of Solomon Ecclesiastes	

DATE	EVENTS	PROPHETS/BOOKS	WORLD
922 BC	Beginning of Divided Kingdom	I Kings 12-22 II Kings II Chronicles	Rise of Assyrian Empire

DATE	EVENTS	PROPHETS/BOOKS	WORLD
722 BC	Succession of rulers North (Israel) 20 kings South (Judah) 20 kings	Jonah Joel Isaiah Amos Hosea Micah	Nineveh, capital of Assyria is spared by Jonah's preaching

DATE	EVENTS	PROPHETS/BOOKS	WORLD
721 BC	Fall of Northern Kingdom to Assyria	Obadiah Zephaniah Nahum Habakkuk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Israel carried off into diff. foreign lands by Assyria • Assyria destroyed by Babylonians • Babylonian Empire established

DATE	EVENTS	PROPHETS/BOOKS	WORLD
587 BC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fall of Jerusalem and Southern Kingdom to Nebuchadnezzar II of Babylon • 70 years of captivity 	Jeremiah Lamentations Ezekiel Daniel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Judah in Babylonian captivity • Rise of Daniel to prominence • Babylon defeated by Medes and Persians

DATE	EVENTS	PROPHETS/BOOKS	WORLD
538 BC	First group of Jewish exiles returns to Jerusalem under leadership of Sheshbazzar	Haggai	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Edict of Cyrus Persian king

DATE	EVENTS	PROPHETS/BOOKS	WORLD
516 BC	Second temple begins reconstruction and completed by Zerubbabel and Jeshua	Zechariah Esther	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Period of Persian Empire • Darius I • Xerxes (Ahasuerus) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Artaxerxes I • Artaxerxes II

DATE	EVENTS	PROPHETS/BOOKS	WORLD
457 BC	Ezra reinstates the teaching of the Law	Ezra	

DATE	EVENTS	PROPHETS/BOOKS	WORLD
445 BC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nehemiah returns to rebuild the wall around Jerusalem • Ezra and Nehemiah dedicate the finished work 	Nehemiah Malachi	Close of the Old Testament period

DATE	EVENTS	PROPHETS/BOOKS	WORLD
400 BC ↓ CHRIST	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greek domination of Judea • Ruled by Ptolemy of Egypt • Maccabean revolt • Jesus Christ born 	Apocryphal (hidden) books Esdras Judith Maccabees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alexander conquers Persia • Ascendance of the Roman Empire

Common Theme

God never _____

Lesson #2 – God stirs _____

2. GOD STIRS UP THE BUILDERS' HEARTS

Pagan kings are moved by God to fulfill Jeremiah's prophecy that the Jews in captivity would be free to return home and rebuild Jerusalem and the Temple.

Intro _____

DATE	EVENTS	PROPHETS/BOOKS	WORLD
721 BC	Fall of Northern Kingdom to Assyria	Obadiah Zephaniah Nahum Habakkuk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Israel carried off into diff. foreign lands by Assyria • Assyria destroyed by Babylonians • Babylonian Empire established
587 BC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fall of Jerusalem and Southern Kingdom to Nebuchadnezzar II of Babylon • 70 years of captivity 	Jeremiah Lamentations Ezekiel Daniel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Judah in Babylonian captivity • Rise of Daniel to prominence • Babylon defeated by Medes and Persians

Assyria _____

Babylonia _____

EZRA

- Ezra 1:1-11 _____

- Ezra 2:1-2

- Jeremiah 29:10-14

- Ezra 2:2

- Ezra 2:36-39

- Ezra 2:55a

- Ezra 2:61-63

- Ezra 2:68-69

LESSONS

1. God can

2. God doesn't

Not everybody chose to go back!

A. Some _____

B. Some _____

C. Some _____

God comes for us in various ways. _____

What is certain is that He does come for us.

A. _____

B. _____

C. _____

3. God can _____

It's not where you live, it's _____

It's not where you worship, it's _____

It's not how rich you are, it's _____

Those who would rise up and build anything _____

3. ENCOURAGED AND LED BY GOD'S CHAMPIONS

In this lesson, Mike describes the main leaders who seemed to make the rebuilding process a great work of faith and courage against great odds eventually glorifying God.

Intro _____

857 BC – The Exile – Captivity in Babylon

538 BC – The beginning of the return _____

- Sheshbazzar _____
- Rebuilds city _____
- Foundation of Temple _____

516 BC – Zerubbabel, Jeshua – Complete Temple

- Haggai, Zechariah – Prophets

457 BC – Ezra organizes leadership, teaches Law

445 BC – Nehemiah rebuilds wall, social reform

LEADERSHIP QUALITIES

1. Sheshbazzar _____

2. Zerubbabel _____

3. Jeshua / Haggai / Zechariah _____

4. Ezra _____

5. Nehemiah _____

TWO LESSONS ABOUT LEADERSHIP

1. _____

2. _____

4. BUILDING UP WITHOUT COMPROMISE OR FEAR – PART 1

This lesson outlines the basic steps of a successful project whether secular or spiritual.

Intro _____

From managing the garden to establishing the church, God _____

Stage #1 – Beginnings – Ezra 3:1-13

- Ezra 3:1-2 _____

Stage #2 – Opposition – Ezra 4:1-24

- Ezra 4:1-2 _____

Assyrian Policy _____

Babylonian Policy _____

- Ezra 4:4-7 _____

- Ezra 4:8-16 _____

False Interpretation

_____ = _____

False Equation

_____ = _____ = _____

Stage#3 - Renewal - Ezra 5:1-17

- Haggai 1:1-9 _____

- Ezra 5:1-5 _____

God's prophets with their preaching:

SUMMARY

1. Beginnings have high hopes - why?

A. _____

B. _____

C. _____

2. Opposition _____

3. How we crumble or stumble.

A. Crumble _____

B. Stumble _____

The strategy to getting back up. _____

A. _____

- I John 1:7-9 _____

B. _____

- Philippians 4:67 _____

C. _____

- Philemon 1:7 _____

Boxing – 3 knock-down rule _____

Boxing – Championship Fight _____

The Point _____

The Promise – I Thessalonians 4:15-18 _____

5. BUILDING UP WITHOUT COMPROMISE OR FEAR – PART 2

This lesson continues the description of the building process as well as the seven things God does to cause the Jewish effort to succeed.

Intro – We’ve looked at the first three stages of the building process.

THE BUILDING PROCESS

Stage #1 - _____ - Ezra 3:1-13

Stage #2 - _____ - Ezra 4:1-24

The opposition begins as public pressure.

Stage #3 - _____ - Ezra 5:1-17

- _____

- _____

- _____

Stage #4 - _____ - Ezra 6:1-22

Ezra describes the seven steps of the renewal of their situation.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____

Stage #5 - _____ - Nehemiah 13:4-31

Maintenance is part of the process because people learn but then forget and regress.

After Nehemiah “completed” the wall:

- A pagan _____

- The people stopped _____

- The Sabbath _____

- Priests began to _____

Nehemiah returned to provide maintenance. _____

SUMMARY

God's servants go through a process when they build.

LESSONS FROM THE PROCESS:

1. You don't meet opposition until _____

2. Your enemies _____

3. If you can't work _____

4. God is always _____

5. God can and does _____

6. You might _____

7. Don't be surprised _____

6. WHEN ORDINARY MEN DO EXTRAORDINARY WORK – PART 1

A deeper dive into Nehemiah's story with a focus on his method of inspiring his followers.

Intro _____

Victorious Christian Service – A. Redpath

The Bible is filled with examples:

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

Nehemiah: _____

I. NEHEMIAH – BACKGROUND

445 BC _____

II. CUPBEARER TO FORTRESS BUILDER – NEHEMIAH 1-2

- Nehemiah 1:1-3 _____

- Nehemiah 1:4 _____

- Nehemiah 1:5-10 _____

- Nehemiah 1:11 _____

- Nehemiah 2:1-4 _____

- Nehemiah 2:5-10 _____

- Nehemiah 2:11-16 _____

- Nehemiah 2:17-20 _____

1. He _____

2. He _____

3. He _____

Next: What to Expect

7. WHEN ORDINARY MEN DO EXTRAORDINARY WORK – PART 2

This final lesson wraps up Nehemiah's task, highlighting the way God provides for all of His builders, and finishes with a final encouragement contained in a segment called, "the art of finishing."

Intro _____

I. WHAT TO EXPECT

1. We Can Expect - Resources

A. He Provides _____

B. He Provides _____

C. He Provides _____

2. We Can Expect - Opposition

3. We Can Expect - Victory

SUMMARY I

Then _____

Today _____

The "Wailing Wall"

If we build the kingdom, He will:

A. _____

B. _____

C. _____

THE ART OF FINISHING

1. Understand _____

There are a lot more _____

Montréal Marathon _____

Why Nehemiah succeeded. _____

He had to persevere through:

- _____

- _____

- _____

- _____

When we begin with the understanding that _____

2. You must resolve that _____

Thomas Edison _____

The true point of victory:

3. Remember that the rewards _____

- John 19:30 _____

His reward was _____

- I Corinthians 9:24-25 _____

GOD BLESS YOU
AS YOU BUILD FOR HIM.

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